The State Pollution Control Board has been directed to monitor the implementation of the action plan.

(vii) In order to prevent industrial pollution in future and to facilitate sustainable development, the Government has made it compulsory for major specific projects to obtain environmental clearance based on impact assessment.

(viii) In order to prevent adverse environmental and health impacts due to hazardous wastes, the State Government has been asked to implement Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules. 1989, notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, by the Ministry.

(ix) The Gujarat State Pollution Control Board has sponsored a project to the National Productivity Council for identifying suitable sites for the disposal of hazardous wastes being generated at Vapi and Ankaleshwar.

(x) Under the World Assisted Industrial Pollution Control Project, assistance is provided for strengthening of the Gujarat Pollution Control Board and for setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) in the clusters of small scale industries.

(d) Does not arise.

Decrease in the Forest Land in Vidharbha

2445. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total forest land in the Vidharbha region of Maharashtra has decreased as on 1st March, 1995, than its position one year ago;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is being done to see that the forests are not denuded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Preservations of Corbett Park

2446. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen a news report under the heading "Corbett Park faces twin threat" appearing in the Hindustan Times, dated the 20th November, 1994;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereon; and

(c) what steps are being taken to preserve the park and conserve the national habitat therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Corbett Park attracts a large number of tourists, which has some negative impact on the park. However, no adverse effects on wildlife has been noticed due to Kalagarh hydro-electric dam constructed more than two decades ago.

(c) The steps taken to preserve the park and conserve the habitat are as under:

(i) The patrolling in and around the reserves have been intensified.

(ii) The tourist traffic is strictly regulated.

(iii) Day visit to Dhikala has been stopped.